

## CLAIMS

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. An integrated ladder and tree stand for attachment to a tree, comprising:
  - a. a ladder, including
    - i. a first vertical support column, having an upper end and a lower end, with a receiver on said upper end;
    - ii. a second vertical support column, having an upper end and a lower end, with an extension on said lower end and a receiver on said upper end, whereby said second vertical support column can be attached to said first vertical support column by placing said extension on said second vertical support column in said receiver on said first vertical support column;
    - iii. attachment means for securing said first vertical support column to said tree;
    - iv. attachment means for securing said second vertical support column to said tree;
    - v. a plurality of rungs attached to said first and second vertical support columns;
  - b. a tree stand, including,
    - i. a frame, having an upper end and a lower end; and
    - ii. an extension on said lower end, whereby said frame can be attached to said second vertical support column by placing said extension on said frame into said receiver on said upper end of said second vertical support column.

2. An integrated ladder and tree stand as recited in claim 1, wherein:
  - a. said frame of said tree stand includes a treeward side, an outward side, and a ladder side; and
  - b. said extension is located proximate said treeward side and said ladder side of said frame, so that when said frame is attached to said second vertical support column, said tree stand is laterally offset from said ladder.
3. An integrated ladder and tree stand as recited in claim 2, wherein said frame further comprises at least one standoff located on said treeward side of said frame.
4. An integrated ladder and tree stand as recited in claim 3, wherein said frame further comprises a vertical mounting post, and wherein said extension extends downward from said vertical mounting post.
5. An integrated ladder and tree stand as recited in claim 1, further comprising attachment means for securing said tree stand to said tree.
6. An integrated ladder and tree stand as recited in claim 1, wherein said frame comprises a foot rest and a seat.

7. A modular ladder for attachment to a tree, comprising:
- a. a first vertical support column, including
    - i. an upper end;
    - ii. a receiver on said upper end;
    - iii. a lower end;
    - iv. a first, second, third, and fourth wall;
    - v. a first standoff extending from said third wall;
    - vi. a second standoff extending from said fourth wall;
    - vii. a first rung extending from said first wall;
    - viii. a second rung extending from said second wall;
  - b. a second vertical support column, including
    - i. an upper end;
    - ii. a lower end;
    - iii. an extension on said lower, whereby said second vertical support column can be attached to said first vertical support column by placing said extension on said second vertical support column in said receiver on said first vertical support column;
    - iv. a first, second, third, and fourth wall;
    - v. a first standoff extending from said third wall;
    - vi. a second standoff extending from said fourth wall;
    - vii. a first rung extending from said first wall;
    - viii. a second rung extending from said second wall;

- c. attachment means for securing said first vertical support column to said tree; and
  - d. attachment means for securing said second vertical support column to said tree.
8. A modular ladder as recited in claim 7, wherein said first rung extending from said first wall and said second rung extending from said second wall are separated by approximately 90 degrees.